

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 80CAIRO 001388

ADP495
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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 IO-14 SMS-01 SY-05 DCT-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00
SES-01 SSN-02 SPH-01 SSM-03 HA-05 /112 W
-----128550 220415Z /17

R 201816Z JAN 80
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3466
INFO: RUEHAL/AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA 6433
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 12065 N/A
TAGS: PINT, PEP, EG
SUBJECT: AL AZHAR ATTACKS SOVIETS

1. SOME 10,000 PEOPLE GATHERED AT AL AZHAR MOSQUE FRIDAY
TO DENOUNCE SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN. SIMILAR PROTEST
PLANNED FOR ABDIN PALACE AT SAME TIME WAS CANCELLED FOR
"SECURITY REASONS". AL AZHAR RALLY RECEIVED FRONT PAGE
COVERAGE IN WEEKEND PRESS, WITH PHOTOGRAPH OF
BANNER READING "SOVIETS, KABUL WILL BE YOUR GRAVE".

2. PAPERS NOTE GATHERING WAS ADDRESSED BY MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD
SPOKESMAN OMAR TALMASANI AND SHEIKH SALAH ABU ISMAIL, AS
WELL AS BY SHEIKH HAROUN AL MOGADDEDY (DESCRIBED AS
AFGHAN RELIGIOUS LEADER). PROMINENCE ACCORDED MUSLIM
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BROTHERHOOD IS UNUSUAL, AS IS FACT THAT NATIONAL DAILIES
QUOTED TALMASANI AND ABU ISMAIL REMARKS EXTENSIVELY -- IF
SELECTIVELY. PAPERS NOTE SPEAKERS STRONGLY ATTACKED SOVIET
INVASION, BUT FAIL TO REPORT REMARKS ALLEGEDLY CRITICAL OF
U.S. AT CONCLUSION OF RALLY, CAMPUS BASED ISLAMIC SOCIETIES
ISSUED STATEMENT CALLING FOR COMPLETE SEVERANCE OF MUSLIM
TIES WITH MOSCOW.

3. COMMENT: MAJORITY OF CROWD APPEARED TO BE AFFILIATED

PAGE NO. 1

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED by BUB DATE 8/2/85
(X) RELEASE () DECLASSIFY
() EXCISE () DECLASSIFY in PART
() DEINT () Non-responsive info.
FOI, EO or PA exemptions _____

_____ TB authority to: _____
() CLASSIFY as _____ OADR
() DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C, OADR

WITH ISLAMIC SOCIETIES; MOST WERE YOUNG, BEARDED, AND CLOTHED IN "ISLAMIC" GARB. THIS ORGANIZATION HAD SOUGHT SEPARATE RALLY AT ABDIN TO REJECT RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL, CALL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF SHARIYA LAW, ADVOCATE JIHAD AGAINST SOVIETS, AND DENOUNCE FOREIGN CULTURAL INFLUENCES. BY RESTRICTING GATHERING TO AL AZHAR, AND KEEPING IT INDOORS, AUTHORITIES DEFUSED POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS SITUATION. ATHERTON

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